

XINGTAI MODERN PROFESSIONAL SCHOOL, HEBEI PROVINCE – 6-9 APRIL
First stop with our friends at Xingtai and a conference entitled “China and Great Britain Professional Interscholastic Learning Forum”. Topics covered included: Governance in further education (with Lynne George, our Chair of Governors) Introduction to Apprenticeships in the UK (with Judith Moule, our Head of Apprenticeships) Techniques for teaching English as a second language Developing friendship links between Xingtai and Basingstoke
JIANGSU FOOD SCIENCE COLLEGE, HUAI’AN – 13-19 APRIL
On to Jiangsu, with 12,000 students, a model, top 100 college. As part of their International Conference, I delivered a speech on quality control and leadership in Apprenticeships and a speech on leadership to their middle management and senior students. Was pleased to sign a Memorandum of Agreement with them which included items such as Staff and student exchanges, UK-based teaching of Chinese students and potential collaboration for joint delivery of UK-based degrees.
CHONGQING EDUCATION ASSOCIATION FOR INTERNATIONAL EXCHANGE – 21 APRIL
Meeting with the association to discuss Teacher and Student exchanges, marketing BCoT to Chinese students and to identify potential partner colleges in Chongqing.
CHONGQING UNIVERSITY OF POST & TELECOMMUNICATION - 21 APRIL
A meeting to discuss potential partnership activities, including top-up course options and a ‘2.1.1’ delivery model. Also gave a leadership speech to post-graduate students.
VISIT FRIENDS HIGH SCHOOL - 21 APRIL
An interesting visit to a local high school and an opportunity to discuss links with university and staff and student exchange visits.
CHONGQING URBAN VOCATIONAL COLLEGE (UVCC) – 22 APRIL
A college with a very similar profile to BCoT; the local area has access to 120,000 students and association co-operation for vocational education. Discussed and provisionally agreed student and staff exchanges, the possibility of providing training to obtain UK qualifications (in hospitality), Apprenticeships and our 2-1-1 joint delivery model.
CHONGQING COLLEGE OF HUMANITIES, SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY - 23 APRIL
A large private college with 18,000 students and strong industry links. Also the opportunity of links with their middle school. A very broad agenda here: 2-1-1 model; Staff/student exchanges; Short (two-week) English language courses in UK; Term length vocational teaching; Apprenticeship work; Summer school.
CHONGQING INSTITUTE OF INDUSTRY TECHNOLOGY (CHONGQING INDUSTRY POLYTECHNIC COLLEGE) - 24 APRIL
A 60 year old college offering a wide range of activities (50 curriculum areas); currently has 12,000 full-time students, 3,000 part-time students and 700 staff. Discussed potential partnerships including: teacher culturalisation programme; student exchange trips; delivering joint qualifications; top-up degrees (they already have arrangements with Germany and Malaysia); summer work and travel – paid internship in service industry; discussed detail of 2-1-1 delivery model to start next year. Also agreed accommodation rates for visiting students.

CHONGQING BANAN VOCATIONAL SENIOR SCHOOL - 24 APRIL
<p>This was an older school which is due to relocate to the new Vocational Regional Centre. This senior school has a very good automotive department.</p> <p>Discussions included: Teacher & student exchanges and the possibility of term-long automotive tuition in the UK.</p> <p>I expect to sign Memorandum of Agreement on my next visit.</p>
CHONGQING TSINGHUA HIGH SCHOOL (AND PRIMARY SCHOOL) - 25 APRIL
<p>High-performing selective High School. Participated in a debate about monitoring teacher performance.</p>
CHONGQING VOCATIONAL COLLEGE CENTRE - 25 APRIL
<p>To discuss the major regional development of vocational in the area, which will involve the relocation of colleges, universities, hospitals and theatres to the region. Tremendous potential – 200,000 students; estimate 5-8 years to complete.</p> <p>Joint activity discussed: 2-1-1 delivery model; Teacher & student exchanges.</p>
BEIJING VOCATIONAL COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE – 28 APRIL
<p>Large college with well-established international links.</p> <p>Meeting resulted in agreement covering teacher & student exchanges and other academic projects.</p> <p>Additionally, met Russian college Primorskayu State Academy of Agriculture and agreements were made to promote student exchange and staff exchange.</p> <p>Outcome: Memorandum of Agreement signed.</p>
HONG KONG TASK FORCE TRAINING CENTRE – 3 MAY
<p>Private training provider focusing on traditional Chinese skills, ie calligraphy, Kung Fu, as well as English and Maths.</p> <p>An opportunity to explore ideas on exchange visits as well as student direct entry to BCoT.</p> <p>Memorandum of Agreement signed.</p>

Anthony Bravo, Principal, BCoT